

(a) whether research work is undertaken to make available toxin free Keshari Dal in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether research is also undertaken on other edible Foodgrains to make them toxin free;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to encourage such research works in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Research work on development of low neurotoxin varieties of Kesari Dal, is in progress under the all India coordinated Pulses Improvement project at Raipur Centre in Madhya Pradesh and at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi. Some of these strains are under multi-location testing.

(c) yes, Sir.

(d) In soybean trypsin inhibitors are found which are not good for health. These inhibitors are heat labile and processes are available for their inactivation.

(e) Sufficient need based research facilities have been provided to the institutions/centres concerned.

United Nations General Assembly

3591. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the agenda for the current session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA);

(b) the items of special interest to India;

(c) the role played by India in reaching a non-aligned and Third World and international consensus on those items;

(d) the composition of the Indian Delegation to the UNGA; and

(e) the estimated expenditure on the Delegation?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI):

(a) The current session of the UNG has over 130 agenda items covering different issues such as international peace and security, disarmament, economic cooperation and development, human rights, social issues, administrative and legal questions and Elections.

(b) India is interested in all these issues.

(c) The Indian delegation has played an active and constructive role in the meetings of the Nonaligned and the Group of 77 to forge common positions on many political and developmental issues. A Communique of the Group of 77 was adopted at the Ministerial level which reflects the common approach of these countries to issues of Development and Economic Cooperation. The Indian delegation has also undertaken extensive consultations with other countries and groups to facilitate international consensus on many issues.

(d) The composition of the Indian delegation is as follows:

1. Shri Madhavsinh solanki
Minister of External Affairs
2. Mr. C.R. Gharekhan
Permanent Representative,
PMI, New York
3. Mr. A.B. Vajpayee, M.P.

4. Mr. R.N. Mirdha, M.P.
5. Mr. Vishvjit P.Singh, M.P.
6. Mr. R.R. Sahu, M.P.
7. Mr. Kapil Verma, M.P.
8. Mr. Abrar Ahmed, M.P.
9. Mr. Debl Prosad Pal, M.P.
10. Mr. Mani Shankar Alyar, M.P.
11. Dr. Venkateswara Rao, M.P.
12. Mr. M. Dubey,
Foreign Secretary
13. Mr. Prakash Shah,
Permanent Representative,
PMI, Geneva
14. Shri T.P. Sreenivasan
Joint Secretary (UN)
15. Shri T. Prabhakar Menon,
Deputy permanent Representative,
PMI, New York.

All officers of the rank of First Secretary and above in the Permanent Mission of India, New York, also form part of the Indian Delegation.

(e) An estimated expenditure of Rs. 39 lakhs is expected to be incurred on the delegation.

International Symposium on Coconut Research and Development

3592. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an International Symposium on Coconut Research and Development was held in November, 1991.

(b) if so, the number of delegates who attended the Symposium and the number of them from foreign countries;

(c) the names of countries participated in the meet;

(d) the recommendations made at the Symposium; and

(e) the steps taken by the government to implement these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Out of a total of 269 delegates, 49 were from foreign countries.

(c) Delegates from Australia, Brazil, Fiji, France, Indonesia, Italy, Ivory Coast, Kiribati, Philippines Papua New Guinea, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, UK, Vietnam, Western Samoa and Netherlands attended the Symposium.

(d) Several recommendations for upgradation of technology in respect of gene banks, use of dwarfing genes and drought tolerant genes, integrated pest management, DNA probes, efficient utilisation of coconut timber etc. were made.

(e) The approved version of the proceedings is awaited.

Trade and Transit Treaties with Nepal

3593. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from Nepal to have separate treaties on trade and transit;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and